

Members:

Rep. Paul Robertson, Chair
Rep. Dennis Avery
Rep. Greg Porter
Rep. Cleo Duncan
Rep. Robert Hoffman
Rep. Rich McClain
Sen. Teresa Lubbers, V. Chair
Sen. Robert Meeks
Sen. Greg Server
Sen. Mark Blade
Sen. Billie Breaux
Sen. Connie Sipes



INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION ISSUES

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Authority: Legislative Council Resolution 2-1998

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: September 24, 1998
Meeting Time: 10:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 156-B
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 5

Members Present: Rep. Paul Robertson, Chair; Rep. Dennis Avery; Rep. Greg Porter; Rep. Cleo Duncan; Rep. Robert Hoffman; Rep. Rich McClain; Sen. Teresa Lubbers; Sen. Robert Meeks; Sen. Greg Server; Sen. Mark Blade; Sen. Billie Breaux; Sen. Connie Sipes.

Members Absent: None.

The Chair convened the meeting at 10:15 am. In comments to committee members, he indicated that there would be no testimony taken since testimony had been allowed during prior meetings. He stated that the following items would be discussed and then voted upon: 1) a preliminary draft on full funding of optional full-day kindergarten (optional for both school corporations and parents); 2) a preliminary draft on professional development regarding full-day kindergarten; 3) and approval of the previous minutes.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on August 12, 1998, were approved by committee members.

Rep. Robertson indicated that the preliminary drafts would not include funding provisions. He added that no matter which Party chairs the Education Committee during the upcoming session, information on full-day kindergarten will be available.

At this time, Rep. Robertson asked Mark Goodpaster, staff with the Indiana Legislative Services Agency, to review a draft of the Committee's final report on optional full-day kindergarten as well as revised cost estimates.¹ The Chair stated that the "Methods of Funding" portion of the report represents only suggestions, and that the House Ways and Means Committee or Senate Finance Committee may come up with better funding mechanisms (the Chair stated that he prefers the method which ties the school funding formula to the funding of optional full-day kindergarten).

Committee discussion was generated as a result of LSA's presentation including but not limited to the following items: 1) state and local split regarding full-day kindergarten funding; 2) how kindergarten

¹ Documents are on file in the Legislative Information Center, Room 230 of the State House, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. The telephone number for the Legislative Information Center is (317) 232-9856.

students are currently counted in the school funding formula; 3) capital costs being included in full-day kindergarten cost estimates; and 4) cost estimates by school corporations.

After discussion, the Committee voted to accept the draft of the final report with certain changes to be reviewed at a later date.

The Committee received preliminary drafts regarding optional full-day kindergarten (PD 3158) and professional development concerning full-day kindergarten (PD 3157).² PD 3158 was amended with a technical change by consent, and then recommended for introduction in the 1999 General Assembly by a vote of 12-0. After a brief presentation by the Department of Education,³ PD 3157 was amended and then recommended for introduction in the 1999 General Assembly by a vote of 12-0. Subsequent to the meeting, the amended version of PD 3158 became PD 3502 while the amended version of PD 3157 became PD 3425.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Robertson had staff from the Indiana Legislative Services Agency distribute informational packets to the Committee from Dr. Robert Williams, Project Director, Indiana Alliance for National Board Certification. The packets included information regarding the Indiana Alliance for National Board Certification, a project focused on the professional development of Indiana's teacher workforce.⁴

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned (there will be no further meetings of the 1998 Interim Study Committee on Education Issues).

² See footnote #1.

³ See footnote #1.

⁴ See footnote #1.